

## NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
PROPRIETOR.

Volume XXXVII.....No. 29

## AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ST. JAMES THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and Broad-

way.—The Ballerina Fantasia of Emma Egan.

ALBANY THEATRE, Broadway, 7th Broadway.—LA GRANDE

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## Mexico—Its Terrible Disorders and Man-

ifest Destiny—A Call Upon General Grant.

Mexico, the richest and most splendid country of the American Continent, is in the last stage of national decay. Through its wonderful resources, productivity of soil and fine climate, the primitive inhabitants had made great strides in the way of civilization when the Spaniards first landed. Under its native rulers it had become a populous and flourishing country, without contact with the people or civilization of the Western World. Its wealth, particularly in the precious metals, was marvellous. Through the Spanish conquerors plundered it on a stupendous scale, slaughtered millions of its inhabitants and established the most fearful despotism, it still continued to teem with riches. So, too, after Spanish tyranny was abolished by the independence of Mexico and establishment of the republic it supplied the world with silver and was a prosperous country. Since it took its place as an independent nation among the nations of the earth it has been the hotbed of revolution and has gone through numerous phases of government within a comparatively short period; yet, with all these damaging and exhausting circumstances, wealth has sprung from it almost spontaneously. Any other country would have been utterly ruined long ago. Now, however, it has reached a climax of disorder when even its extraordinary resources cannot save it from ruin and desolation unless the strong government of the United States and our enterprising citizens interpose and regenerate the country.

Our special despatch, dated Matamoros on Saturday and published yesterday, says "fighting still continues;" that the revolutionists under General Quiroga had attacked the forces of Cortina at Camargo; that this General was invading the State of Tamaulipas, with the object of capturing all the towns on the frontier; that Matamoros would soon be taken; probably that the States of Coahuila and Nuevo Leon are held by the revolutionists, and that in other States the different rebel forces were making progress. We may hear a more flattering account in future of the Mexican government, possibly, in the course of a few days, and by way of the city of Mexico, for these accounts are colored according to the channels through which they come. But however the conflict may incline from day to day or month to month, or whichever party may triumph for a time, nothing will be settled. No permanent government of Mexico by the Mexicans is possible. "Fighting still continues." This might have been said of Mexico any time since that country became independent, with the exception of short and rare intervals. Civil war has been the chronic condition. Rival and ambitious chiefs, who are often only robbers on a grand scale and under the guise of political disaffection, make war upon the government and each other, and they drag the peaceably disposed people into their conflicts. With these chiefs and bandits there is no regard for any regular constituted authority. The central government is powerless to keep them down. The whole history of the government shows this. The disease of civil war is too deep seated to be eradicated by the Mexicans themselves.

Nor is the Mexican government capable of maintaining the independence of the nation against foreigners. Twice has our government restored to Mexico her independence after being conquered. Once we were in possession of the country, and in looking back to that time it is unfortunate, perhaps, that we did not hold possession. We can imagine what a different fate Mexico would have had if, instead of taking only California, General Scott had been ordered to hold the whole Mexican territory. But the institution of slavery in the South and the sectional difficulty at home prevented annexation at that time. With a magnanimity unparalleled in the history of nations the United States not only restored to the Mexicans their conquered country, but actually paid for the Territory of California—then a wilderness—which we held by the laws of war. Then, when the French subjugated Mexico and established a foreign imperial government over it, the United States forced the invader to leave and re-established the native republic. No unprejudiced and intelligent Mexican will dispute the fact, we suppose, that, but for the intervention of the United States Mexican independence would have been extinguished. A country, then, which is neither capable of self-government—which is in a continual state of civil war and anarchy—nor of maintaining its independence against foreign Powers, can have no hope of perpetuating a national existence.

Then, Mexico cannot perform the duties of good neighborhood to the United States. What ever may be the disposition of those in power at the city of Mexico, they cannot prevent disorders, robbery and smuggling on our border. The two countries join for the distance of a thousand miles or more, the narrow stream of the Rio Grande lying between them part of the way, and the dividing line through the other part being only an imaginary one. During our war Mexico along this border was the base of vast supplies to the rebels, which, of itself, was sufficient cause of hostile proceedings against that country. Since then millions have been lost to the revenue by smuggling across the boundary line, and Mexico is so far forgetful of her duty and so obstinate that, powerless as she is to protect the border, she refuses to admit freedom of trade. With all that we have done for her, and with all our forbearance, she denies us the only compensation possible in her power. Our soil is made the base of hostile preparations and movements, the property of our citizens is seized and appropriated with impunity, and our people along the border live, in fact, in a state of terror and *quasi* war. No other great civilized nation would endure half that we have endured from the robbers, revolutionists and disorders of Mexico and from its weak and unfaithful government.

It is useless to hope for anything better or any redress. The only remedy is in annexation, either by treaty negotiation or by force of arms. Turkey, Poland, nor any other country was ever so sick unto death as Mexico is. Our interests, progress and future are intimately connected with the destiny of Mexico. If there were any prospect of peace or maintaining a regular government in that

country we might be forbearing still, overlook injuries and help to uphold its independence, as we have heretofore; but there is none. As a nation Mexico is in the throes of death. The fate of the people depends upon us. Our duty is plain. We should save the people from destruction and that magnificent country from desolation. Every one admits that annexation is only a question of time. The great nations of Europe have twitted us for our apparent indifference to the fate of Mexico and on our want of a grand national policy with regard to that country. We have neither permitted them to cure disorders that are a disgrace to the civilized world, nor have we attempted to put an end to them ourselves. Has not the time come to act? If the Mexicans cannot govern themselves and annexation is inevitable some time, as every one admits, why should our government wait any longer? Why wait till ruin and desolation are spread over the whole land?

We have no doubt that the Mexicans would gladly accept annexation if the proper means were used to show them the advantages and the subject were handled in a statesmanlike manner. The sentiment of race cannot be strong where there is such a mixture of people, and where the pure Mexican race, which is composed chiefly of the poor class, is governed for the most part by those of mixed Spanish blood. Nor can there be a strong sentiment of national autonomy or hope of perpetuating it with a nation which is in a rapid process of disintegration and which suffers so much from want of proper government. As regards their religion, the Mexican people, as well as the priests, know that under the United States they would have the greatest liberty and tolerance. The latter would see, too, that the property of the Church would be as fully, or better, protected and be made more valuable under the government of the United States. Every one, indeed, who owns property in Mexico would be greatly benefited. The peons, or laboring class, would be raised from their present state of degradation and obtain a better reward for their labor. Even the political and military leaders who now keep the country in anarchy might indulge in higher ambition for distinction as citizens of this great republic. The Mexicans of all classes could not help seeing, if properly enlightened, the advantages of annexation.

And what would be the effect upon our own country? It would give us the richest territory on the earth; would add several California to our domain; would multiply our productions and the variety of them, and give us, particularly, a monopoly of the silver and quicksilver production of the world; would open a vast commerce to build up our depressed shipping interests; give us numerous and valuable ports, both on the Pacific and Gulf of Mexico, and virtually make that gulf an American lake; make us independent in sugar, coffee and other tropical products; afford a splendid transit route from ocean to ocean across Tehuantepec; extend our railroad and telegraph systems to every part of Mexico, and hundreds of advantages for American capital and enterprise. It would, in fact, advance the country in wealth, prosperity and power amazingly. The labor of seven millions of peons, who are, when properly treated, a most docile and industrious people, would soon create boundless wealth and make Mexico blossom as a rose. All this happiness to the Mexicans and advantages to this country are within grasp. There is one man who can secure the prize and send his name down to posterity with a far greater halo of glory than now surrounds it. That is General Grant. It is within his power to annex Mexico. Is he equal to the occasion? The way and means of accomplishing the object can be found if he will make that the policy of his administration.

## Quarantine—Report of the Health Officer of New York.

We publish in another part of the paper the report of the Health Officer of the Port of New York for the year ending December 31, 1871, which has just been submitted by the Governor to the Legislature, in connection with the report of the Quarantine Commissioners. It is an ably prepared document, covering every point relating to quarantine of interest to the public and the government, and will prove unusually interesting just now, as this department has been the subject of considerable discussion. This report is the best answer, and a complete one to the strictures made by those inimical to Dr. Carnochan upon the management of quarantine, and he has in good taste avoided anything like recrimination or special pleading. He appears to feel satisfied that the facts he presents will justify his conduct, and in this he is right; for no impartial person can read his report without giving him credit for ability and a faithful performance of his duties.

The position of Health Officer is both a delicate and an important one. The first object is to protect the public from infectious and dangerous diseases. No great commercial city in the world is so exposed to these as New York, and it requires skill and incessant vigilance to prevent them reaching the city. Cholera, smallpox, ship fever and other diseases are brought with the vast influx of immigration, and yellow fever comes through our large trade with the West Indies and other tropical regions. During the last year, as Dr. Carnochan shows, these fearful scourges have been brought to this port, but they were not allowed to reach the shore. With all the danger the health of the city has been preserved. The object for which quarantine was established has been accomplished during Dr. Carnochan's administration. This is the great fact that must prove satisfactory to the government and inspire confidence among the people. When we consider what disasters—what loss of life, property and trade would be the consequence of yellow fever, cholera or any other such scourge getting into this city, and look at the danger to which we have been exposed, every one, we think, will accord to the Health Officer the credit due to him for his vigilance and able management of quarantine. The statistics embodied in the report will show the nature and number of the diseases brought by vessels to the port.

Another object which the Health Officer has had constantly in view and has carried out wisely has been to place as few restrictions upon commerce as possible compatible

with safety to the public health. This is fully shown in the report. Some few shipping agents or merchants, more intent on saving a few dollars than caring about the health of the city, may have complained of necessary restrictions. It would be strange if some such persons were not found in this large commercial community. It would be surprising if the necessary quarantine restrictions were not complained of by some. But the mass of our best merchants, as well as the community at large, must be satisfied with the facilities given to commerce by the Health Officer while protecting the city from disease. The vast and increasing amount of tonnage entering the port, as shown in the report, proves how little there is to complain of in the way of restrictions, and is a complete reply to those who have wrongly stated that our commerce was falling off. In adjusting so well the interests of commerce with the necessities of quarantine Dr. Carnochan has reduced the system to something like science. The Quarantine Commissioners are like the fifth wheel to a coach. They are unnecessary, except, perhaps, one might be useful to co-operate with the Health Officer. It is a useless expenditure of money to keep up this Commission. The real work is with the Health Officer. Dr. Carnochan has proved a very efficient one, as the facts show, and it is to be hoped his report will be satisfactory to the Governor and Legislature as his administration of quarantine has been to the public.

## President Thiers and President Grant—The Latest News from Paris.

President Thiers' resumption of office as chief of the government of France is pleasing to the Legislative Assembly, to the French army and the neighboring ruling great Powers; to the majority of them at least, as appears from our telegrams from Paris. MacMahon has spoken for the army of France personally; the electric telegraph conveyed the congratulations of the foreign Cabinets. The members of the French Ministry have resumed their portfolios, and France has a government again. MacMahon declares that the army "would obey the orders of the Assembly, but that it will not be controlled by a dictatorship, which was likely to follow the unconditional resignation of the President." The French newspaper press publishes sensible, mayhap seasonable, advice to M. Thiers. The public journals recommend the Chief of Cabinet not to participate in Parliamentary discussions. The writers hint that there have been too many Messages of State to the Legislature. They allege, indeed, that the reconstructed Ministry has already resolved to curtail these privileged communications—to abridge them both in frequency and volume. President Thiers will, in the future, address the Assembly only on "important occasions," and the debate pending at the moment shall be adjourned for the purpose of receiving the government statement. This will be a plain executive letter without interference with the debate of Parliament.

This brief outline of news from Paris is of an exceedingly encouraging character. It goes to prove that France really possesses all the elements of a moderate democratic conservatism, which can be easily moulded into a solid, substantial structure of national, patriotic self-government. President Thiers is convinced that the spark of true liberty remains alive in the hearts of his countrymen. He has fanned it into a bright light even amid the hurry of a Ministerial dissolution, and proved to the world that the blood-stained and red-handed men of the continental "isms" of the day have been merely violent and temporary intruders around the peaceful firesides of the nation. President Thiers has grown weary, however. This is not to be wondered at in a man in the seventy-fifth year of his age. He appears to be slightly despondent in tone. This is vastly regrettable. He is tired of conflict with the Assembly. He is certain that these conflicts will be renewed. "Sooner or later he will be compelled to retire from the Presidency of the republic."

France sees to-day that this event would be to her a great one. President Thiers, by a formal resignation, with his Cabinet, has already brought the impracticables of the French Assembly to their marrow bones. He has shown, from the results of this proceeding, that, without the guiding hand of this old man just now, France is chaos once again. The Versailles Assembly admits the fact, and all parties shrink from the alternative of another French revolution—with the International and the Commune on the watch, and with the Bonapartes awaiting the signal for their return to Paris. M. Thiers, it seems, too, is an indispensable security to the Germans for their indemnity, and that with his retirement, under the existing condition of things, the German armies would reoccupy the departments they have lately abandoned. Was there ever in France such a picture of national insecurity, danger and helplessness as this? How long can this fearful state of things last? It cannot last long; but when the change comes what will be the reaction, and where will it be arrested? The whole situation in France, on every side, and in all its aspects, is fearful to contemplate; for "poor France" was never before so maddened by disasters and misfortunes, and never so full of combustibles and explosive materials as she is now. She is in a state of doubt, torture and suspense, which cannot be much longer endured, and then look out for the Bonapartes or another deluge.

Meantime there is much in the situation of President Thiers as the safeguard against the wrangling factions of France that resembles the situation of President Grant as the peace preserver among the clashing factions of the United States. If it can be said that the retirement of Thiers and his Cabinet to private life at this time would bring chaos upon France, it may also be said that the retirement of President Grant at this juncture would throw the United States into a general political agitation and confusion perilous to the peace of the country. To be sure, Vice President Colfax would take the helm, and Mr. Colfax is an experienced and trustworthy man in public affairs. But, considering the hostile cliques and factions that are moving heaven and earth to upset Grant, there would be no hope for Colfax. Grant has a more substantial and a larger and deeper popularity than Thiers; he has given us a good adminis-

tration; he is a safe man; all the great interests of the country rest securely upon his shoulders, and yet against him such hostile elements and combinations are developed that they foreshadow nothing but political chaos with his sudden retirement.

If he were to retire prematurely from public affairs this day the disintegration of the republican party would commence to-morrow. The public spoils and plunder in the hands of Mr. Colfax would only Johnsonize, or, rather, Tylerize, the party. A half dozen rival republican Presidential candidates would spring up; the party, in their "irrepressible conflict," would go to pieces at Philadelphia, like the democratic party in the Charleston Convention, and the combined forces of Southern secessionists and Northern copperheads, on their "old departure," would come to the front. Confidence in the national securities would be swamped; the national currency would go down and gold would go up, and a panic would come next in order, culminating in general bankruptcy and repudiation. If President Thiers, therefore, in regard to the taxations needed to meet her national debt and in regard to her revolutionary factions, is now a necessity to France, so is President Grant to the United States. If the one is needed for law and order and the healthful processes of reconstruction, so is the other; for if France is still adrift we, too, have still to establish the perfect work of a great revolution.

## Plain Talk from the Pulpits.

Sensationalism having for the time being exhausted itself in the Fisk furor, we had yesterday a return to the old, but ever safe, path of Gospel truth where Christ alone holds the central place and His name is the great attraction. The Rev. Mr. Willis treated his large and attentive congregation to some practical thoughts and suggestions on the power which that name possesses. It is the symbol of love and mercy, of justice and of triumph, and through this name God can be just and yet justify the sinner. The Rev. Mr. Macnamy, in St. Patrick's Cathedral, held up the same great name, and illustrated the results of faith in Christ, and also the substitution of reason for faith. In the latter case we have the Church, which should be a unit in Christ, split up into fragments, so that she who was constituted guardian of the truth is warring against truth. But the blessings of faith enable us to escape the jarrings and contentions of this life and the terrors of the judgment, and bring us to a rich reward in heaven. In contrast with the leading thought of this minister of Christ was the discourse of Rev. Mr. Hale, of Boston, in the Church of the Messiah. The liberal and the orthodox theologues were portrayed and held up for the admiration or approval of mankind. Under the latter the priest and the Church are everything, but under the former God has made of us all kings and priests unto himself. Let us each do nobly his work. The best preparation we can have for the functions of this royal priesthood is a recognition of our self-consciousness and individuality before God. This thought was elaborated by Mr. Pullman in the Church of Our Saviour. Men have been kept down, he said, by their religious creeds; but the world is now outgrowing this blind adherence to creeds and ceremonies, though the shell still clings to it. Man's superiority over the lower animals consists in this consciousness which should never be lost sight of. But will this consciousness always continue? Is there a life everlasting beyond the grave? Let any doubter take up Rev. Mr. Bjerring's able argument in the Greek church yesterday, and he will probably begin to doubt the soundness of his own theories on the subject of the soul's immortality. This doctrine is treated, not from a purely religious standpoint—because, of course, sceptics scout the Bible, which reveals it—but rather from a scientific and philosophical standpoint where they are met on their own ground.

Old Trinity church was aroused last evening by the Rev. Dr. Dix taking those three words so intimately connected with man's present and eternal welfare—home, marriage and divorce—and stripping off the gaudy attire from the latter while he beautified the former. Without wedded life home is impossible. Marriage is a natural, a civil and religious contract; but the Doctor has no faith in polygamy or plural marriage. Reckless marriages give the Courts all they can do in the divorce line, and the Courts are only too ready to step in for the benefit of licentious men. He did not endorse divorce. It was never designed by God, and he considered it nothing more than naked heathenism in modern dress. Mr. Hepworth is rapidly forming his new Congregational church, and this evening the initial steps will be taken toward organizing a corporate society and gathering in a Sunday school. And as in all such laborious missionary undertakings divine strength and grace is needed, and these come only by prayer, Mr. Hepworth very simply and touchingly yesterday discoursed on this subject, illustrating from scenes in the life of Christ the necessity for it and the nearness of access to God which it gives us.

In Brooklyn the pulpits were also comparatively free from sensational topics yesterday. Mr. Beecher for the time being forgot his favorite topic—God's love to the race—and indulged in a little plain talk about money and its uses, recommending therein greater simplicity and economy in living. It was a thorough going home sermon, and should be read at the tea table or the fireside this evening, when every member of our readers' families might and should be present. The Rev. Dr. Osborn preached to the Tabernacle Baptist church on the Atonement, and Dr. Chapman gave his Methodist flock some excellent reflections and suggestions on the duty and the beauty of a witnessing church. The Rev. Mr. O'Callahan in St. Mary's Church of the Sea stripped the veil from that modern fiction, "science falsely so called," and presented it naked to his audience as rebellion against God and as generating and giving power to sins for which there may be no forgiveness neither in this life nor in that which is to come. In Grace church (Protestant Episcopal), Jersey City, a very touching and eloquent discourse was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Rice, on the men brought to the surface by social and religious and political upheavals, and in

striking contrast with the demands of Omar, Napoleon, Gregory VII. and Mohammed were the demands of John the Baptist and of Jesus Christ as presented by Mr. Rice. To these and to the other pulpits thoughts of yesterday we invite our readers' attention to-day.

## The Legislative Printing Swindle—Finding a Molehill and Missing a Mountain.

One of our amiable contemporaries, the racy and readable organ of the republican "outs," is just now waging a terrible war against the Clerk of the State Senate, who is charged upon the affidavit of a discharged clerk—those discharged clerks are your most ruthless enemies of official corruption—with having received some three or four thousand dollars in money and forty dollars' worth of pinhead jewelry from an Albany printing firm as a sort of bonus or per centage on work done for the State. The Clerk of the Senate and the printer reply by a counter affidavit, in which they deny specifically the several allegations, affirming that the sum paid to the former by the latter was in consideration of services rendered in preparing manuscript for publication, proof-reading and revising, and altogether repudiating the pinhead jewelry presentation.

It is not worth while to inquire what amount of factional hatred, malice and uncharitableness enter into the criminations and recriminations constantly going on between the republican administration and anti-administration cliques. The matter is as immaterial to the independent press as it is to the people at large. Either faction is so liberal in its charges and so positive in its proofs of corruption and rascality against the other as to induce a general belief that they are all rogues together. If the Senate Clerk, Mr. James Terwilliger, has been guilty of any official misconduct it is proper that he should be exposed, no matter how much the exposure may be due to the fact that he has heretofore held a prominent position in the New York Custom House and is friendly to President Grant, Senator Conkling and ex-Collector Murphy. To be sure, no improper act has yet been proved against him, and he has borne a good reputation in the midst of much legislative corruption. We only allude to the present trumped-up charges in order to show our philosophical contemporary that in searching for a molehill he has missed a mountain, and to call his attention to the rich developments made by our Albany correspondent in the snug little matter of the legislative printing swindle.

The firm of Weed, Parsons & Co. represents the proprietorship of the Albany Evening Journal, the State organ of the moral and intellectual reform party. Our old friend, Amasa Sleeper, could not have denounced the sin and abomination of worldly pleasures with more pious vehemence than has moved "the firm" in its indignation against the corruptions of the Tammany officials; yet all the time it has been doing a very pretty job of stealing on its own account. The extent of its operations can be seen from the exhibit of one single session's outside work in the State Legislature—that is to say, of the printing, the Red Book and civil list frauds, and other swindles outside the regular contract for Legislative printing. It will be seen from our Albany correspondence that in the session of 1871, when so many wicked deeds were done by the democratic majority at Albany, the saintly State organists of the reformers managed to get into the Supply bill, under their own names and through the medium of a dummy, to the extent of nearly one hundred and eighty thousand dollars. Almost the whole of this amount was secured through resolutions passed by the Legislature ordering a large supply of books—many of them utterly worthless—such as school registers, insurance reports, meteorological observations, Wade's Poor Laws, Cook's Poor Laws, supervisors' manuals, town clerks' manuals, and the like. One of the items—amounting to over twenty-seven thousand dollars—is significantly designated by our correspondent as a "steal out of whole cloth." We invite Attorney General Barlow's attention to the exhibit, and suggest whether it is not a case warranting an action for recovery in the name of the people of the State. The Supply bill items furnished by our correspondent will give him a clue to the whole swindle. Let him take, for instance, the "meteorological observations made since 1850," and ascertain, first, whether it is not an old stereotyped job revived; and, next, whether the pamphlets are worth the enormous sum of over eleven dollars a copy. Let him make the same inquiry regarding "Barnes' Condensed Insurance Reports," and find out whether this is not an old Monsieur Tonson in the Supply bill, and whether six dollars a copy is not an extortionate charge. Next, let him investigate the "extra composition, extra corrections, stereotyping and lithographing," and see whether the sum of twenty-eight thousand dollars, or thereabouts, is or is not a "steal out of whole cloth." Suits have been brought in the name of the people of the State against the Tammany thieves; now let us see whether some action cannot be taken against the Albany plunderers.